



Volunteering around town

Annual fair draws out non-profits and residents

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Top players hit the ice
DSBN All-Star game held at Leisureplex

16



RCBHS production heading to provincial finals

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Saturday, April 24, 2010

Planting new life



Niagara Christian Community of School students Calvin Walker, left, Shannon Vermeer and Alana Fanslata planting a tree near Frenchman's Creek on Earth Day, working closely with the Friends of Fort Erie's Creeks organization.



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See Page 2

Shoreline needs more access

MPP Kim Craitor re-introduces bill, using Fort Erie as an example

Kris Dubé
The Times

According to Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craitor, the public is entitled to more access of Ontario's shorelines.

Last week in the provincial legislature, Craitor re-introduced the Great Lakes Shoreline Right of Passage Act to his provincial colleagues, saying it needs to be opened up between the shoreline and high water mark in accordance with British common law.

"Essentially the bill will allow for the public to enjoy various beaches on the great lakes of our beautiful province," said Craitor.

The legislation prohibits property owners living adjacent to the waterfront from claiming and barricading beaches by putting fences out way into the water and allowing them to assert the beachfront as private and exclusive property.

Lifetime of service



This week, the Douglas Memorial Hospital Ladies Auxiliary honoured Sharon Fox, left, Betty Hume, Helen Eggleton and Fran Miller as lifetime members at a luncheon held at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The Auxiliary also swore in its executive board for 2010-11, which includes past president Helen Eggleton, president Barb Boyer, first vice president Betty Hume, second vice-president Diane Tenny, treasurer Terrie Hall, recording secretary Nancy Hesse, corresponding secretary Frances Wright and publicist Betty Learn.

Shorewalk Association says bill is 'a positive step'

From Page 1

The bill limits the right of passage along the shoreline to people on foot and other non-motorized means like carriages and wheelchairs and protects adjacent landowners from the noise of off-road vehicles.

Craitor believes the public should not be able to access the beach through private property and therefore a public right of way must exist so people can utilize Ontario's beaches to the fullest extent.

He feels there needs to be a better understanding of how much land property owners do have control of and get rid of encroachments designed by waterfront beachowners to divide the private and public lands, when in many cases they are claiming public property to be their own.

"Some people are selling their homes

on the basis that they have their own private beach, when in fact they don't," said Craitor.

When he brought this bill up in discussion at Queen's Park, Craitor also mentioned the work of the Ontario Shorewalk Association and its president Stephen Passero, who is also a Fort Erie resident and active community member. He also commended the hard work of its former president Garry Skerrett.

"They deserve to be recognized, not only in Fort Erie, but right across Ontario," said Craitor.

Passero said he appreciates Craitor bringing this issue back to the political shore, saying "anytime we can put something back under the radar screen, it's a positive step."

He said there are some cases where some property owners do own the lands all the way up to the Lake, but in some cases it is the total opposite.

"Not every waterfront homeowner owns all the way to the water's edge. It's different all along," said



It gives the public access to the shoreline, but also works to protect the interests of the homeowners themselves."

— Stephen Passero

Passero.

He feels this bill is the best case scenario when it comes to allowing the public to use beachfront property they are entitled to, while respecting the residents who live along the shore.

"It gives the public access to the shoreline, but also works to protect the interests of the homeowners themselves," said Passero.

The bill will implement a fine of up to \$2,000 if the public is improperly blocked from enjoying access to the beach.

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Finding the right place to volunteer

Over 40 non-profits share information with potential volunteers at annual fair

Kris Dubé
The Times

"Volunteer work should be fun."

At the annual Town of Fort Erie volunteer fair on Tuesday, member of the museum cultural heritage committee Keith Overend used the above comment to summarize why more people should spare some time for local non-profit organizations.

"People would pay a fortune sometimes, just to get this kind of information," he said referring to the amount of local history one can enjoy if they become a volunteer with the committee operated out of the Fort Erie Historical Museum on Ridge Road.

He said it is his understanding that many other organizations around Fort Erie are in

the same predicament as the museum committee...plenty to do but not enough people to pitch in.

"We have too few members and too much work," said Overend.

Mary McLelland-Papp, who is also involved with the museum and cultural heritage committee agrees more people need to become involved with local groups especially if they are eager to volunteer, summarize and have the time to do it.

She believes the most effective charity work comes from people who genuinely enjoy the work they do and that's why choosing the right organization for yourself is very important.

I think when people are part of a volunteer effort, it's usually because they're really interested," said Papp, who is also looking to recruit with the Fort Erie Railway Association, recently formed to raise funds for the restoration of the CN6218 locomotive, situated at the Fort Erie Railton Museum on Central Avenue.

Ridgeview resident Marilyn Holmes could be found at the fair chatting with the Salvation

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Marilyn Holmes

Army's community and family services manager Donna Paterson.

Holmes said she missed the event last year, but made sure that wasn't the case this around.

"I've been wanting to volunteer for a while," said Holmes.

"As soon as I got back from vacation, I marked it on the calendar," she added.

About 40 local organizations were on hand to promote their work and share information with interested individuals.



Ridgeview resident Marilyn Holmes inquiring about volunteering with the Salvation Army, with community and family services manager Donna Paterson at the Town of Fort Erie's annual volunteer fair at the Leisureplex on Tuesday.



MAKING AN OBSERVATION

Ear infections, usually occurring in the middle ear, are the most common disease suffered by infants and children. Known as "otitis media," they are media with effusion" when there is a buildup of fluid and mucus in the tube of the middle ear. Other causes: severe pain and may result in serious complications such as permanent hearing loss if untreated. For these reasons, parents of affected children usually insist on antibiotic treatment; however, it has been found that the infection usually clears up without antibiotic treatment. This is done through the "observation option," which calls for children aged two and over who are otherwise healthy to be observed for a short period before antibiotics are prescribed.

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Ridgeway students take their acting to the big stage

Cast and crew of *Machinal* chosen as one of 12 schools to perform at provincial finals

Matt Day The Times

The cast and crew of Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School's production of *Machinal* are off to the provincial drama competition this weekend if you love doing something good things happen.

The student-produced rendition of *Machinal* is a story about a woman living in the late 1920s and ends up murdering her husband after having her entire life dictated by the people and machines around her.

The Ridgeway line is nothing new to the school's drama program, which has historically tried to push their productions to the limit, and helped them earn some awards at the regional Sears Drama Festival held in Hamilton last weekend.

RCBHS took home outstanding production awards, and Olivia Cook was given an outstanding

actress award for her performance.

The real thrill for the cast and crew was finding out their play was chosen to represent the region at a provincial level at a showcase in Brantford beginning May 13.

Grade 12 student director Anya Baker said much of their success is attributed to the amount of fun everyone has putting the play on.

"We know the theme of the play isn't as light as other high school performances, but we treat it as just another opportunity to have fun and create art," she said.

She said some minor adjustments are being made for their upcoming showcase, featuring 11 other schools throughout Ontario.

Stage manager Liam Pihl said as much credit as this year's ensemble needs to be given to past years' productions.

"They paved the way for us to get to where we are. Six years ago we started entering drama festivals and throughout those years we've gradually gotten to where we are today," he

said. Baker agreed, pointing out how much of a team the group of student shave become.

"We've built a small community where the older kids teach the

younger kids things they've learned and it's always been that way."

What makes this recognition more enjoyable for half of the members of the play is that this will be their graduating year.

Still, they admit to feeling no pressure, even if their upcoming May performance is the biggest stage any of these young actors and actresses have performed on.

"We have no expecta-

tions going in, we just want to put on a show," said actress Brooke Hepburn.

RCBHS will be holding a fundraiser show on May 10 with tickets available by calling the school at (905) 894-3461.



The cast and crew of Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School's *Machinal* show off some recent awards they took home at the regional Sears Drama Festival and other shows put on throughout the school year. The student-run play will be heading to Brantford on May 13 to perform at the Provincial Showcase which features 12 of the best high-school plays in Ontario.

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Monday, May 10: Niagara Networks. Meet people, make connections, do business and have fun at the Fallsview Casino Grand Ballroom from 5-8 p.m. Tickets \$10 for Chamber members \$15 non-members.

Thursday, May 13: "Social Media for Business" Lunch and Learn with Adam White, of JMR Software. Tickets \$20 for Chamber members, \$25 for non-members & includes lunch.

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opinion page

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our editorial

Clearing up confusion about bottle drive

We all make mistakes...even the best of us.

In last week's issue, readers saw a photo and cutline detailing the South Niagara Life Centre (SNLC)'s baby bottle drive.

But as it turns out, there was some information provided that has confused some people who are interested in donating or participating.

There was one word that co-ordinators of the fundraising campaign has created a lot of questions being asked...and that word is "pur-chased."

The campaign is designed to have people from the community take a

bottle into their homes or businesses to then be filled with money and there is no purchasing involved.

There are about 1,500 bottles available and the local counselling ministry hopes people will get involved, now that the correct information has been explained to them.

The *Times* regrets any confusion the photo and cutline in last week's issue may have caused and hopes people will recognize the importance of this fundraising initiative. For more information, call the SNLC at (905) 871-0236.

-Kris Dubé



Do You Remember?

We received no calls about the children in last week's photo who were learning pioneer skills, but we did get a phone call about the previous week's Do You Remember photo. Marguerite Hanratty identified Give Fretz, second from left in the photo of the gentlemen and their trophies. Of

course Mr. Fretz is a well-known politician, but Mrs. Hanratty also remembers him in his late teens working at his father's butcher shop on Jarvis St. However, we have a dilemma as someone else is sure that this is not Give Fretz. Mr. Fretz if you read this, please contact the Museum and clear up this mystery.

This week's photo shows a girl's team sponsored by Don Simmons Sports. Tammy Bremner's name is written on the back with the date 1981. Can anyone tell us which one she is or the names of any of the other girls? Please call the museum at (905) 894-5322 or send an e-mail to museum@forterie.on.ca.

Education week delivers the right message



Kris Dubé
Editor's Notebook

This was more than just an opportunity to enjoy a delicious breakfast...it was an opportunity to hear a strong message.

On Tuesday, I was an invited guest of the principal of a local elementary school to attend the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) kick-off breakfast for education week, a time of year when a different message or

theme is stressed by educators about different ways of building the skills and futures of our younger generations.

This year's motto was building character attributes within students touching on topics like respect, responsibility, optimism, courage and a few others. It was a great message and I agree with it also has to deal with the current world you learn at school and the friends you make and keep for many years to follow.

I have so many memories from my time at school and I can honestly say I hold many of them very close to me still and still apply what I learned today on a regular basis.

I'm not talking about learning long division or dissecting a worm in high school science class, I'm referring to the character I received from my teachers and how effective they are when helping students grow into becoming good citizens. And that's exactly what the DSBN is trying to get across with its theme for this year's education week.

I'm talking about being respectful of others around you, whether it is your teachers or fellow students. One example that was shown in a video presentation at the breakfast was, a clip of a young male student who is unique in their own way and don't hold it against others who might be different than them in some

region with his family from Asia. He said he has made many friends here and that everyone respects for who he is and doesn't judge him because he hasn't lived here his whole life or because he is of a different nationality. I was impressed with this young man's comments for two reasons.

Firstly, because he had the courage to speak about his own situation so effectively but also because it really shows that kids are starting to realize that everyone is unique in their own way and don't hold it against others who might be different than them in some

way. Everyone has their own qualities and personalities and making sure young people realize and believe in this on a regular basis is a major step for our society.

It looks like we are going to be on the right track, when these young individuals get out into the workforce in a few years. It is obviously the result of good parenting but also a product of our effective education system and the messages being delivered to students.

If you would like to leave me feedback, you can call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 207.

opinion page

Younger generation needs to be aware of health care issues

Dear Editor,

Last year, the Yellow Shirt Brigade had a large sign erected on the golf property across from the Fort Erie Town Hall which stated, 'three cemeteries and no hospital.'

We did that to show that our health care system was taking away our equal rights to accessible health care and putting the citizens of Fort Erie and surrounding area at risk.

This sign was mentioned to me by a member of the NHS, at the first information session the NHS held, in Port Colborne.

Said that the sign was supposed to come down but was still up on Garrison Road.

She then told me that the sign was "nasty and frightening".

I answered her by saying "good it was doing its job then, as people should be worried about what is happening."

I then went on to tell her that it was taken down from its original location and was now erected at my home on Dominion Road, where it will stay, as people need to know what is taking place.

One day this week a

young man knocked on my door. He apologized for coming to the door, but said that he just wanted to know what the sign meant.

I explained why it was there and that it was because we are fighting to get our hospital and emergency room back, as we are losing our health care because of the NHS, the LHIN and the Liberal government.

He was concerned for all of us, and said that although he lived in Hamilton, he would be happy to get our message out and would help in any way he could.

We welcome him, and any of the people that he can reach, as they are not really aware of what is happening in Niagara.

It just may take a 21 year old young man to pick up the fight for us in other areas.

Thank God that the younger generation are out there and will come forward.

Maybe slowly at first, but like us, their numbers will grow and their voices will count in the next election. This time we must get it right!

A day does not pass without someone approaching us with a per-

sonal story about their frightening experience with our health care in Niagara.

We are compiling these written horror stories and will display them when our next tragedy happens, and someone dies because of being ignored in a hospital waiting room, or in a bed or hallway, or, even worse, having a perforated intestine and just being left in a bed without immediate treatment and care.

Yes, we need all the help we can get, and just knowing that there is one public minded young man out there might bring others forward.

The young know that they may need help one day and hopefully it won't take a major personal accident or illness to show them that if our system continues moving as it is now, help will not be there for them.

Yes, one young stranger with a heart and conscience is a start, but remember it is one step at a time perhaps, but it is a step forward.

Joy Russell
Yellow Shirt Brigade

The TIMES Asks

Why is it important to celebrate Earth Day?



Sarah Ransom



Joshua Habery



Jordan Rowling



Ainsley Miller

"So that everyone knows they should take care of the Earth."

"It helps us remember how important God's creations are."

"It's important for people to realize how bad littering is."

"Because Earth is a beautiful place."

What do you think?

E-mail: editorial@forterietimes.com or call 905-871-3100, ext. 207

Former mayor Redekop says Ontario Hospital Association is 'out of touch'

Dear Editor,

The recent reports from the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) blamed physicians for the financial woes in Ontario hospitals as, at best, pathetic.

This is the same organization, headed by Tom Clossen, that supported the Niagara Health System (NHS) Hospital Improvement Plan and dismissed the proposed role of doctors, health care professionals and others to address the collapse of hospital services in Niagara.

The leadership of the OHA is out of touch with the rest of the province's health care providers. While the OHA produces maligning reports and makes false allegations about physicians and others, front-line health professionals are working tirelessly to find innovative solutions to improve quality care to Ontario's patients.

Now that the provincial government has taken on Big Pharma, one wonders if doctors are next in its efforts to contain health

costs. What the Minister of Health could and should do is send in a supervisor to investigate that NHS and other inefficient and floundering hospital systems in Ontario and scrap the Local Health Integration Networks.

That would be a true indication that the government is serious about preserving our hospitals and health care.

Wayne Redekop
Fort Erie



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PUBLIC NOTICE

(1)

TOWN OF FORT ERIE

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ATTENTION CANDIDATES AND POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

Information Session

Are you interested in running for Municipal Office or School Board in the 2010 Municipal Election?

The Town of Fort Erie, together with the area municipalities, will be hosting a free Candidate's Information Session to be held:

Date: Wednesday April 28, 2010

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: McLaughlin Community Centre - 2nd Floor

740 Lakeshore Road, Niagara Falls

All Registered Candidates and those individuals thinking of running in the 2010 Municipal Election to be held on Monday, October 25, 2010 are cordially invited to attend free of charge.

This information session will be provided by Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff and will provide information on the municipal election process, including rules and regulations related to campaign finances.

THIS IS NOT A CANDIDATE DEBATE FORUM

All Candidates are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the recent changes to the Municipal Elections Act. This Information Session is designed to provide Candidates with the current information they will need for the upcoming Municipal Elections.

A copy of this notice is available on the Town's website at www.townofferie.ca.

For further information, please contact Carolyn J. Keit, Town Clerk and Returning Officer at: 905-871-1600 ext.221 or ck@forterie.on.ca.

(2)

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Town of Fort Erie offices at:

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(3)

** TAX NOTICE **

TOWN OF FORT ERIE

2010 PROPERTY TAXES

FOR ALL PROPERTY CLASSES

SECOND INSTALLMENT DUE: FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2010

For further information regarding payment of taxes,
 please refer to the back of your tax bill.

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Finance Department, Municipal Centre, Fort Erie, Ontario

Gillian Conroy
 Manager of Revenue & Collections

REQUEST FOR TENDER

(1)

MODULAR WASHROOM/UNICHRM BUILDING

FD-01-2010

Sealed tenders, clearly marked as to content will be received by Carolyn J. Keit, Town Clerk, until 2:00 p.m., **WEDNESDAY MAY 19TH, 2010**.

Tender forms may be picked up in the Fire Department at Town Hall, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie Ontario starting Wednesday April 21, 2010.

The lowest or any tender may not necessarily be accepted.

Promoting Fort Erie arts around Niagara



Local artists Joachim Gmoser, left, and Jennette Conners will be taking their work to the upcoming Pelham Art Festival from May 6 to 8 at the Pelham Arena. Both are members of the Fort Erie Arts Council and say the event is a great opportunity to network with other artists and promote their own work. For more information on the local artists visit Gmoser's site at www.cmytworx.com and Conners' site at www.jennetteconners.com.

Donating life



Last Friday, Canadian Niagara Power (CNP) surprised one of its employees Norman Damato, right, for donating blood for the 100th time in his life with a celebration organized by Debbie Young, of Canadian Blood Services. Vice-president of operations for CNP Angus Orford also commended Damato for his generosity. There will be a clinic on Wednesday Apr. 28 from 1 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Parish Hall. Donors in good health from the age of 17 to 81 are needed.

Support COPE with pasta dinner on Thursday at Italo-Club

A lot of satisfaction can result from eating a delicious meal that in turn benefits a local food bank.

On Thursday May 6, there will be a pasta dinner to benefit Community Outreach Program Erie (COPE),

held at the Italo-Canadian Club on Dufferin Street.

The evening starts at 4:30 p.m. and wraps up at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased by stopping by COPE's location on Dufferin Street or by calling

them at (905) 871-2526. They can also be purchased at the door on the day of the event.

The community is encouraged to attend the dinner, to help raise funds for the local organization that is always in need.

A ride to work is on its way

Kris Dubé
The Times

If you are hesitant about finding a job in Niagara Falls because you don't have a means of getting there...help is on the way.

Starting tomorrow, a partnership between the Town of Fort Erie and the Business Education Council (BEC) will take affect with the "Fort to Falls" connection bus.

This is the first time an intermunicipal transit system will be available to residents in the summer months as it will start this weekend and come to a close on Sept. 6 of this year.

Funding to put this program on the road has been made available by the BEC's Niagara Prosperity Initiative and is designed to help neighbourhoods where poverty exists by offering a way for people to be employed in Niagara Falls. It's possible for those without a vehicle or other way of getting to work on time.

The one-time funding for this initiative is \$77,443.

Mayor Doug Martin said "The Town of Fort Erie is excited about being able to extend its bus service to Niagara Falls throughout

the summer months. Working together with our funding and community partners means more access for Fort Erie residents to employment, healthcare and recreation in 2010."

Part of the program being put in place is to target specific neighbourhoods where employment rates are low and in this case the north end of Fort Erie has been pin-pointed.

The entire program, funding and service design was contingent on us providing this service to a neighbourhood that was identified by the Region of Niagara as at risk," said the Town's transit administrator Carla Stout.

Although this service is being provided by Niagara Transit, Stout said it is a "completely different" project than the intermunicipal transit program that was approved in 2008 to accommodate the transportation needs of college and university students.

There are three stops on the route which are on Gilmore Road, near the QEII, the Job Gym on Wintemute Street and Wal Mart on Thompson Road.

Carla Stout

"This is an intermunicipal bus that is still being provided by Niagara Transit, but it's being provided as an employment hub."

— Carla Stout

"This is an intermunicipal bus that is still being provided by Niagara Transit, but it's being provided as an employment hub," said Stout.

There are three stops on the route which are on Gilmore Road, near the QEII, the Job Gym on Wintemute Street and Wal Mart on Thompson Road.

fare to ride is \$3.75.

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**Two dollars a trip
doesn't seem
much, but it adds
up over an entire
summer."**

— Delaney Pearce

activities they took part in last year will greatly diminish.

"Two dollars a trip doesn't seem much, but it adds up over an entire summer," pointed out Pearce.

Between the two friends, they figured they would ride the bus on average of two trips per day in a 62-day summer, not including Sundays.

Carla Stout, administrative supervisor at the Town said the \$2 fare per trip has been in place for

almost 10 years with no increases being made during that time.

The promotion was aimed at tripping train our community youth to utilize the transit and to increase our ridership," she said.

Half of the youth fares were funded by Dunn the Mover with the Town's taxpayers coming up with the rest of the cost through the transit operating budget.

The idea of offering a transit pass for Frequent users has been tossed around, but Dunn the Mover is currently not required by their contract with the Town to force any fare discounts until 2012 as part of the costs go towards delivering and operating the service.

Last year, there were 7,431 youth trips in the summer and the transit system now provides everyone close to 50,000 trips per year.

Local girls concerned about getting around this summer

Matt Day
The Times

Last summer, children in Fort Erie were able to travel around town with ease thanks to the Kids Ride Free promotion offered by the Town and its partner Dunn the Mover.

"This year, it's going to cost them."

A normal Fort Erie transit bus ride costs \$2, which is still lower than other municipalities, but some children still say that's too much.

Michael Fairgrave and his friend Delaney Pearce said last year they took

advantage of the promotion to attend Bay Beach,

each other's houses and different events not within walking distance.

"It allowed us to actually go places in town when our parents were working all day," said Fairgrave.

The two 13-year-olds

now figure the summer

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Ask a Restaurateur

Q: Why do some restaurants close on certain days?

A: Some Restaurants close one day a week for cleaning and repairs which can be difficult to do when you are open. At The Bistro, we have been closed occasionally on Sundays for the past few years. Sundays have also become a day where our staff can enjoy their friends and family and the time to rest and re-energize. Are we going to open on Sundays? Not yet. With all due respect to our customers, the consumers have been requesting closed days.

The Bistro has become the benchmark for the hospitality industry in the Niagara Region and our Awards of Excellence from The Ontario Healthy Food Establishments Program show that. Our staff and families have been the reason for our success at The Bistro and we need time to recharge. Remaining closed on Sundays and Mondays will allow us to better serve our valued customers throughout the week.

The only exception will be on Mother's Day. The Bistro will always respect Mother's wishes!

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Peter Kourouklakis.



Peter Kourouklakis
Owner

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Ask an Insurance Specialist

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Ask a Real Estate Expert

Q: How has the First Quarter been for the Real Estate Market?

A: It has been an exciting First Quarter in the Real Estate Market due to the steeper wage rates, climbing interest rates and the new harmonized sales tax, helping to jump the Real Estate Market this first quarter. The average price of home that sold in Niagara this first quarter was \$217,813. Buyers and Sellers are trying to beat the new standards that were implemented by the Government to make sure the borrowers must meet a strict guideline. According to the financial experts they are projecting a slight increase in interest rates over the next few months.



Marg Orr
Broker

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Ask an Accountant

Q: Do I have to report horse racing activity on my tax return if I own a racehorse?

A: First, I am delighted that live horse racing is back at Fort Erie, second, to answer your question, yes and no depending on the circumstances. The Income Tax Act considers racing as a hobby if you do not receive any income from racing. There are three categories: 1. Hobby Farming, 2. Residential Farming, 3. Full-time Farming. Hobby - if the activity is undertaken not in pursuit of profit, but for personal enjoyment the losses would not be deductible.

Residential Farming - if you have a hobby farm and you have a regular job, any net year-end source of income, any losses are limited to the lesser of the actual loss or \$2,500 plus one half of the net \$12,500 to a maximum of \$10,000. TIP - operate with your spouse as a partner and double up on the allowable losses.

Full-time Farming - if, however, you have a hobby farm and you have a regular job, always consult an accountant experienced in the horse racing industry if considering ownership.

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Ask a Funeral Director

Q: I received a mailing from an insurance company offering "final expense insurance". Is this the same as a prepaid funeral?

A: Not necessarily. You should never purchase any kind of "funeral plan" without discussing your decisions with a licensed funeral director. This will ensure that your contract is protected and guaranteed. I would be happy to discuss any questions regarding prepaid funerals with you.



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Ask a Business Counselor

Q: When starting a small business what are my government responsibilities?

A: There are several federal, provincial and municipal regulations and requirements when starting a small business. Starting July 1, 2010 the province of Ontario will be requiring business to register for Harmonized Sales Tax, which combines 5% GST and 8% PST. Other common requirements involve: registering your business name, obtaining a municipal business license, ensuring proper land usage and zoning, Excise Tax, obtaining a Business Number (BN), adhering to the requirements of Employment Standards and Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), payroll, and maintaining accurate business records.

For more information contact:

Helen McCreadie

BSL
Kipling, Sudbury, Parry Sound
Business Services & Loan Centre

43 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 2E3
Telephone: (905) 871-1000 Fax: (905) 871-4284

Ask an Automotive Service Technician

Q: Have you inspected your vehicle?

A: Well, I made it through another harsh winter, and your vehicle performed all winter long. Now that the winter weather is back, you need to take a few moments to have a thorough look at your vehicle. It probably took some abuse over the winter and you don't have to be a mechanic to see some of this damage. Begin with a look at your tires - check the pressure (use a gauge). Check the lights and make sure they aren't burnt out. Check the lenses for cracks or breaks. Fire up the engine to see if the exhaust is leaking. If so, have a careful look at your parking spot - look for oil stains or other liquid. If so, have your mechanic examine your vehicle.



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Ask a Dentist

Q: Why Have Implants?

A: Dental implants have become one of the most successful procedures available for those missing a single tooth or even all their teeth. It is a great way of replacing the single missing tooth as it is a much more conservative procedure; meaning, there is no need to touch the teeth on either side of the missing tooth. In addition, implants can be placed so that they can be placed in upper and lower jaws that allow a denture to be securely attached. This is particularly useful for a complete lower denture as they generally need much less stringent secure than a complete upper denture. The downside to implants is that they require a surgical procedure, multiple appointments and they tend to be much more expensive. For those who have had a complete lower denture that is loose and tends to move from side to side, implants offer a degree of security and stability that can be achieved in no other way.



Terry McKay

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Phone: 905-894-5555

Terry McKay
BSc., M. Sc., DMD



Ask an Environmentalist

Q: Earth Day was great but how can I do my part for the environment all year round?

A: Some feel you must change your whole lifestyle to help the environment but small changes can make a big difference. One way is watching how we buy our groceries. Now that the warm weather is here go to your local farmer's market! Fresh or preserve local produce when it is abundant and affordable and being the farmer's market to your kitchen is around. Also food grown locally has much less of a transportation impact. Whenever possible, buy local.



Deon Bell
Executive with
Friends of Fort Erie's Creeks



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Ask a Contractor

Q: Do I need a permit to build a deck?

A: Each municipality has its own regulations pertaining to home renovations. In Fort Erie if your deck is less than 0.6m (24 inches) above grade you do not need a permit. However before you start to build, it is wise to check with the Town in regards to setbacks from property lines. Come in and let one of our Deck Experts help you build the deck that suits your needs.



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Ask the Chiropractor

Q: What is all the fuss lately about vitamin D?

A: Like many vitamins and minerals, vitamin D has been overlooked for years as a valuable solution to many of our health problems. Only recently has the medical community started to realize the importance of this vitamin. A deficiency in vitamin D important for absorption of calcium to help build strong bones, studies have shown that a daily intake of vitamin D between 1500-1500 IU have been linked to bone health, muscle tone, teeth and bone health, arthritis and even cancer attacks. This may only be the tip of the iceberg as we learn more about what vitamin D can help improve your health.

Although some foods are fortified with vitamin D, it's best to get 1000 IU through the sun. And don't worry, the sun's gentle warmth from the sun is good for the body.

Cards: During winter months, the vitamin D created from sun exposure is almost zero. It's safe to supplement with at least 1000 IU of good quality vitamin D daily, especially during the winter.



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Ask A Computer Technician

Q: How do I upgrade to Windows 7 from windows XP?

A: Unfortunately, you can't directly have Windows 7 from Windows 7. Instead, you have to perform a format installation, which can format the hard drive Windows XP is installed on and starting again from scratch. You will probably discover that the Upgrade Advisor finds a number of problems with both hardware drivers and software programs, so expect to spend a bit of time checking and preparing for this.

This means that it's vital that you back up your files and settings before you start the Windows 7 installation process. You can use Windows Easy Transfer tool (this is the recommended method) or use a third party software. If you do this, and if you have not backed up since we already had you back up a copy of your entire hard drive, contact us at Tech Services Niagara for your support questions.

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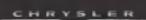
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Dreams to Memories needs a hole-in-one

Non-profit wants to raise awareness and funds with annual golf tournament

Kris Dubé
The Times

There is a local non-profit organization that wants to help people, but in order for that to happen...a little bit of help needs to go its way first.

Dreams to Memories, a registered charity, assists terminally ill parents with children under the age of 15, by providing them an opportunity to go on a vacation or experience that will create lasting memories.

Since the organization doesn't receive any funding from the government but helps families from all over the province, it can be a

struggle for the group to make sure the funds are available when they are needed.

"That's why fundraising is so important," said volunteer Jacque Napper.

An upcoming chance for the community to show support for the generous and caring group is its eighth annual golf tournament at Bridgewater Country Club, on Monday May 30.

For \$140, participants can enjoy 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch and dinner, along with many prizes. Golfers will also be given a \$40 tax receipt.

Napper said the group is always very appreciative of the support the annual tournament receives, but it needs to get better.

"It's diminishing, every year and it's our main money," she said.

Dreams to Memories board member Mary Byrne hopes if more people are

aware of the cause they could be playing for and that the tournament's entry fee isn't too expensive...this year's event could pull in a significant amount of money.

"It's a great day for \$140," she said.

Foundation co-ordinator Pat Sinclair agreed more donations are needed, but also said families who are in need and going through a tough time with an illness shouldn't hesitate to contact them.

"We want the families to know we're here and that we're here to help," said Sinclair.

Anyone interested in playing in this tournament is urged to contact (905) 994-9777.

For more information about the non-profit organization and its efforts, you can visit them online at their website, www.dreams2memories.org

Mayor heading to Virginia to research speedway impacts

Kris Dubé
The Times

whole around and on race days. He referred to it as an opportunity to evaluate effective ways of providing a quality product and event for fans, without disrupting those who live nearby.

"There's probably a good chance we'll see very little of the race, since we'll be researching what happens on a race day...how you get people in and out, those types of things," he told The Times on Tuesday.

He said it will give local officials a much better understanding of how to mitigate concerns of residents about noise, pollution and traffic congestion in the surrounding area.

"We want to see exactly what the impact is going to

We want to see exactly what the impact is going to be."

— Doug Martin

be," said Martin. The next steps for the Canadian Motor Speedway is re-zoning the lands of the proposed site, on 823 acres between Bowen and Gilmore Roads. It is expected re-zoning will be considered by government officials by the end of the year.

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Campaign kickoff



Ward 1 Coun. Sandy Annunziata conversing with former mayor Heinz Hummel at the first of many meet and greet events he will be hosting during his campaign, seeking the Niagara PC nomination for the next provincial election. Dozens of supporters gathered at Happy Jack's Restaurant on the Niagara Parkway to wish him luck with his political aspirations.

Community Health Day is this Friday

Model of care
wants to dress
health inequities

Kris Dubé
The Times

Addressing health inequities due to poverty is the primary goal of Community Health Day.

On Friday April 30, Ontario's 74 Community Health Centres (CHC), along with ten Aboriginal Health Access Centres and 18 Community Health Teams are celebrating the CHC model of care and calling for an increased action to promote a health equity agenda across the province.

The Bridges CHC, located inside the Holiday Inn on Garrison Road will be taking part and its administrators say poverty is the biggest

inequity that needs to be looked at when it comes to health care.

The single strongest predictor of health is income," says health promoter Rhonda Barron.

"Poverty, unfortunately is going to have the greatest impact on who is well and who is not," she added.

The Bridges CHC has been providing primary care for clients since the Fall of 2008 and Barron said it is their objective to continue focusing on social determinants such as employment, housing, income and social affliction.

"As health providers and promoters, we're engaging people in communities to face those barriers, so we can develop programs and services in response to those needs," she said.

Frances Garwe, the Bridges CHC's program director says awareness has grown about the CHC model of care and that they receive an "acceptable" amount of patients on a regular basis.

"At the same time, we're not all about pumping people in like a factory," said Garwe.

"We want to know our clients by name and not just by the file number we have in the system," he added.

Bridges is accepting clients who are without a family physician and places a priority on families and individuals with a low income, seniors, youth, new-comers to Canada and all demographics who face challenges accessing appropriate health care and support.

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Employment fair being held on Monday at Job Gym

Matt Day
The Times

The Fort Erie Job Gym is hoping to see a lot of potential clients come through their door on April 26.

That's because they will be holding a job fair for those interested in finding work, and with Niagara's current unemployment rate being 10.7 per cent, one of the highest in the country.

Program director Julie Morrison said this is the perfect opportunity for those who want a job to come get one.

"We'll have a variety of employers here, on the spot, ready to do interviews. People could be leaving here with a job opportunity," she said.

The majority of employers are in the hospitality industry and are located in Niagara Falls. She said that should not deter anyone from potentially landing a job outside of Fort Erie thanks to the new Fort to



It's important to reach out to the community and provide the necessary services to make Fort Erie grow."

— Julie Morrison

ices to make Fort Erie grow," she said. "This service will help bring money back into our local economy and allow people to experience all of what Niagara has to offer, even if they don't drive."

The job fair is not only featuring local companies, but Fort Erie as some businesses in town will be attending.

Not all positions being offered are full-time, as part-time and students positions are available.

"The majority of jobs on the market aren't those advertised," said Morrison. "If a job seeker is looking online or in the newspaper, they could be missing out. We can help them tap into that hidden job market."

Morrison advises those who plan on attending to do so in proper interview attire. The fair runs from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Positions such as room attendants, guest service agents, photographers, cooks and customer service representatives are available through the fair.

United Way exceeds its campaign goal

Martineau.

\$206,325 raised
in Fort Erie and
\$1,062,560 in
Niagara Falls

"We knew it would be a challenging year, but the people here have once again shown their generosity and support for their community."

Many volunteers worked hard to achieve these great numbers, he added.

"It took us a little longer to get everything wrapped up, but it is great to see that both campaigns landed over the goals set last fall," said Martineau.

The goal for Fort Erie was \$200,000 and \$1 million for

Niagara Falls.

During the winter months, the United Way's allocations committee worked on reviewing applications and awarding grants for the 2010-11 year.

"Just over \$713,000 will be distributed to 31 agencies serving people in Fort Erie and Niagara Falls," explained committee chair Pat Dunn.

"As well, we will be distributing \$60,000 through our special project-emergency fund this year," he added.

Despite difficult economic times, the communities of Fort Erie and Niagara Falls exceeded their 2009 United Way fundraising goals, raising \$206,325 in Fort Erie and \$1,062,560 in Niagara Falls.

"We are very excited about these results," said campaign chair Dave

Crystal Beach resident John Papadakis has registered at Town Hall, hoping to be elected as councillor for Ward 5.

Papadakis has served as a councillor in the Greater Toronto Area and ran for

mayor in the last municipal election in Fort Erie but was defeated by Doug Martin. He also ran to be Ward 5 Coun. in the 2000 election, with Tim Haggerty coming out on top.

So far, Papadakis is the only individual who has regis-

tered to run for the position of councillor in Crystal Beach.

The incumbent, Martha Lockwood, has not yet announced whether she will be a candidate in the Oct. 25 election.

Papadakis running for council

Around Niagara



St. Catharines MPP Jim Bradley watches Craig Fowler of Habitat for Humanity sign his name to a board that will be used to build an affordable home in Welland. The Niagara Home Builders' Association and the Niagara Construction Association are donating the equivalent of \$100,000 in materials, skills and people power to build the house between May 14 and 16.

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Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School forward Matt Woehl, finds his way around a Zone 4 defender during last Friday's second annual District School Board of Niagara boys' hockey all-star game. Zone 3, featuring Fort Erie and Ridgeway players, ended up taking the game 4-1 against the Zone 4 All Stars.

AGCO

Alcohol and Gaming
Commission of Ontario

Notice of Liquor Licence Application

The following establishment has applied to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario for a liquor licence under the *Liquor Licence Act*:

Application for a Sales Licence

BARNSEA HOUSE TAVERN
28 COURTWRIGHT STREET
FORT ERIE (Indoor and outdoor area)

Any resident of the municipality may make a written submission as to whether the issuance of the licence is in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the residents. Submissions must be received no later than April 27, 2010. Please include your name, address and telephone number. If a petition is submitted to the Commission, please identify the designated contact person. Note: The AGCO will be the applicant copies of any objections. Anonymous objections are not considered.

The personal information gathered is collected under the authority of the *Liquor Licence Act*. The principal purpose of the collection is to assess eligibility for the issuance of a liquor sales licence. Copies of all objections are given to the applicant. The information may also be disclosed pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Manager, Licensing and Registration, Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario at the address, telephone numbers or e-mail address listed below.

Submissions to be sent to: Licensing and Registration, Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, 99 Sherwood Avenue, East, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M2N 0A4. Tel: 416-326-8700 OR Toll-free in Ontario: 1-800-522-2876. Fax: 416-326-5555. E-mail: Licensing@agco.on.ca

Fort Erie hosts high school hockey all-star game

Zone 3 team,
featuring
Fort Erie and
Ridgeway players,
wins easily 4-1

Matt Day
The Times

Although the high school hockey season is long over, some of the league's selected best hit the ice one last Friday.

The Zone 3 All Stars faced off against the Zone 4

All Stars with Zone 3 earning the 4-1 win after their dominant offensive performance.

The game, held in the Fort Erie Leisureplex, was a chance for players to showcase their talents and skills one more time in front of family, friends and spectators organized by Dave Kanatovic.

The game was also meant to be a little more intense compared to your typical all star game because heing in high school, these guys want to compete," he said.

This is the second year in a row the District School Board of Niagara has had an all-star game, with yesterday's game being held in St. Catharines.

Kanatovic was given a list of each school's best players as selected by their coaches, which were divided into zones.

The Zone 3 team, consisting of Fort Erie Secondary School and Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School players, jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead on goals from Ridgeway's Justin Krieger and Fort Erie's Geoff Overholser.

The Zone 4 team cut the lead to one

after a trickling puck found its way to the back of the net on a shot from Simcoe's Derek Miller.

That's as close as the game would get as the Zone 3 All Stars put it away on goals from E.L. Crossley's Trevor Rogers and Ridgeway's Matt Woehl.

The game was also meant to be a little more intense compared to your typical all star game because heing in high school, these guys want to compete," he said.

This is the second year in a row the District School Board of Niagara has had an all-star game, with yesterday's game being held in St. Catharines.

Kanatovic was given a list of each school's best players as selected by their coaches, which were divided into zones.

The Zone 3 team, consisting of Fort Erie Secondary School and Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School players, jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead on goals from Ridgeway's Justin Krieger and Fort Erie's Geoff Overholser.

"It's just nice to play against the other guys which you've played with and battled with all year."

The Town of Fort Erie donated the ice time for the students to be able to play.

Bricks & Bouquets

If you have a brick or bouquet send it to
editorial@forterietimes.com or
phone 905-871-3100, ext. 210 and leave a message

Brick

To people who don't tie down their load properly on the way to the dump. When you notice garbage flying off the back of your truck, get out and fix the problem so you're not littering on every street along your route.

Bouquet

To everyone who participated in a clean-up on Earth Day. Your help and enthusiasm is greatly appreciated.

Brick

To people who still drive and talk on their cell phones without a hands-free device. I can't believe how little consideration they have for the law and the safety of other motorists.

Bouquet

To people who take the time to be considerate and respectful of other people they cross paths with. It's simple...what goes around, comes around.

Brick

To parents who smoke in

their cars when their young children are passengers. Just because your windows are tinted, it doesn't mean we don't know what you're doing.

Brick

To people who drop cigarette butts and used tissues at post office boxes in the Ridgeway-Thunder Bay area. Have a little consideration for other people, even though tidiness isn't something you care too much about.

Bouquet

To people who are optimistic about the nice weather arriving and staying for longer than two days before it gets cold again. It's nice to see people wearing shorts and convertible owners driving with their tops down.

Brick

To people who leave Christmas decorations up on their homes all year long, especially those icicles. Get with the season.

NOYES FOR MAYOR CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISER

STEAK DINNER

Sunday, May 2, 2010

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm – Continuous Serve
Crystal Ridge Community Centre
(Ridgeway Lions Hall)

Adults \$35.00 Children (5-10 yrs) \$15.00

– Advance Tickets Only –

Chef Mark Hand

will be making the dessert

For Tickets Call

Ann-Marie Noyes 905-382-2352

email: Noyes.for.mayor@gmail.com

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Auctions A120



J. Sher's Estate AUCTION SALE Saturday, May 1st, 9:30 a.m. 3543 Switch Road, Black Creek. Antiques, furniture, collectibles, garage contents & much more.



Antiques & Collectibles A100

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wheel, not with back
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Miscellaneous A230

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Coming Events

DOG OBEDIENCE CLASS
Sat, June 5, at 3:30pm
in Ridgeway, Fort Erie.
Contact: Dog Training
Doris McMahon 905-864-5000
www.davetron.ca

FEARLESS 1000
Fee Hour, St. Michael's Church, Wed., May 5th. Refreshments served. \$10.00. (The Burden Basal) followed by potluck dinner. All ladies are welcome.

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place an ad in A30
1-866-541-6757

Fundraiser

Dance for Lions Fundraiser

Dog Guide Dogs

in Honour of Roy L. Parker

St. Mary's of Loretto

Lexenplexus Inc.

Business Hall

E25, Diane

905-667-4421

Tickets

925 until April 1st

• Saturday, April 24, 2010

Coming Events

GROUP DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES start Saturday, June 5th. \$10.00 enrollment. Contact: Judith Beam, The Dog Lady, 905-864-5019, www.the-dog-lady.ca

PENNY SALE, Canadian Boatmen's Club, 8th St. at Peffer, Friday, May 7th, 10am-1pm. \$10.00 pp. for adults. Drives start 6:30pm. Call 905-667-3308 for more info.

St. John's Banquet

United Church Royal

Beefer Dinner

Sat. May 8th

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Deaths



HAMER, Marjorie Anne - Peacefully on April 15, 2010 in her 73rd year. Dear wife of the late George. Loving mother of Georgia (Ken) Oschipko, Dorothy (Peter) Cressatti and Lori (Peter) Sexton, all of Toronto. Much adored wife of proud grandmother of Kathleen, Vicki, Sarah, Brian, Jennifer and Matthew. Beloved daughter of Marjorie and the late James Gilmour and dear sister of John and Jim. She will be sadly missed by sister-in-law Mary, nieces, Katie and Wendy, great-niece Audrey and her extended family and friends. Marjorie will be remembered for her sense of humour, warmth and friendship. She created a loving home and will always be in our hearts. Special thank you to Deanna, Sue, the staff at Garrison Place and Douglas Memorial Palliative Care Unit and especially to Dr. Kim Scott. She will be greatly missed. A memorial service will be held on May 6th at 2 p.m. at St. John's Anglican Church in Stevensville, Ontario. If desired, donations in her memory to Douglas Memorial Hospital Palliative Care Unit, Fort Erie or the Canadian Cancer Society would be greatly appreciated. ARRANGEMENTS entrusted to NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES, Ridgeway ON 905-894-0120.

Deaths

HERBERT, Donald Edward - HERBIE THE CLOWN. Peacefully on Tuesday April 20, 2010 at the age of 73. Don was the son of the late John Herbert (Juliette) and nephew of Nettie Gildon (Jerry). Dear brother of Linda Dekker (Jack), Darlene McDonald (John) and Joyce (Korrie) Miller. Don was predeceased by his mother Grace Fuller and his brothers Ronald Herbert and Brian Fuller and sister Bonnie Michael. Uncle Don will be missed by many nephews (great) and nieces (great) and friends and neighbors. Don enjoyed being a professional clown and entertainer for 50 years and performed over 25 years at Enbridge Gas Company. A celebration of Donald's life will be held at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Fort Erie, ON at 11:00AM Friday April 30. Interment to follow at Greenwood Cemetery. If so desired, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or the Make Foundation or the Ontario Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES, Ridgeway, ON 905-894-0120.

Card of thanks

THE VANDERKLEI FAMILY would like to thank all their friends and neighbours for the support, cards, gifts and donations at the passing of our much loved little brother, Tony on March 18, 2010. It meant a lot to us and was very much appreciated. Tony and Kathie Vanderklei.

In memoriam


Norman Donald Graham

In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather who passed away April 29, 2008. So much of him will never die, a special place in our hearts. And in our hearts, a special place. Sadly missed by loving wife Mary, children and grandchildren.

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